



Get In Gear – Traffic Safety/Technology Lesson Idea

Grades 3 - 12

Overview – Students create and present podcasts, movies, comic books and slide shows integrating bike and auto safety into digital-media files.

Lesson Objectives – Students research and discuss risks and safety related to walking, biking and riding in cars. Students will work cooperatively using digital tools to develop and present a digital-media project focused on traffic safety.

Teaching the Lesson

Introduce activities to assess student's prior knowledge and set the stage: ask about seat belt and helmet use; knowledge of traffic signs – Stop and Yield; crossing streets; risks of riding with inexperienced teen drivers; and distracted driving.

Teach "Ride Like a Friend"

1. Buckle Up - Make sure you and your friends buckle up every trip, every time.
 2. Show Respect - Lower the volume. Discourage distractions. Ask the annoying passenger in the back seat to chill out.
 3. Be there to help - Let the driver know you can answer a cell phone or get directions.
- ♦ Students will collaborate on research to develop a digital-media presentation focused on traffic safety.
 - ♦ Students explore and demonstrate the photo, text and sound editing tools available in computer programs.
 - ♦ Students write storyboards, comic strips, video scripts, find and create digital images, add music and create transitions to develop their digital-media presentation.

Close the lesson with questions to evaluate student's achievement of the lesson objectives

Digital-Media Resources - Apple's GarageBand, iMovie, PowerPoint, Comic Life, Adobe Photo Shop, Picasa and others

Safety Resources – NHTSA <http://www.nhtsa.gov/> , OPI www.opi.mt.gov/drivered
Young Drivers <http://www.ridelikeafriend.com/organizer/index.php>
CDC Kidswalk <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/kidswalk/>
Safe Routes to School <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>

Extend the Lesson

- ♦ Present projects to younger students in their classrooms or at a safety fair
- ♦ Contact local radio and TV stations about broadcasting Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
- ♦ Post safety project videos on YouTube

Montana Technology Content Standards

1. a student must use digital tools and resources for problem solving and decision making. (ARM 10.54.7510)
2. a student must collaborate and communicate globally in a digital environment. (ARM 10.54.7520)
3. a student must apply digital tools and skills with creativity and innovation to express him/herself, construct knowledge, and develop products and processes. (ARM 10.54.7530)

